



# City News

City of Waterville

May / June 2010



## Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 31  
from 9:00AM to  
12:00PM

Starting at Head of  
Falls, ending with  
closing ceremony at  
Veteran's Memorial  
Park

### Upcoming Holidays

All City  
departments,  
except emergency  
services, will be  
**CLOSED** in  
observance of the  
following  
holiday as shown:  
**Memorial Day**  
**May 31**



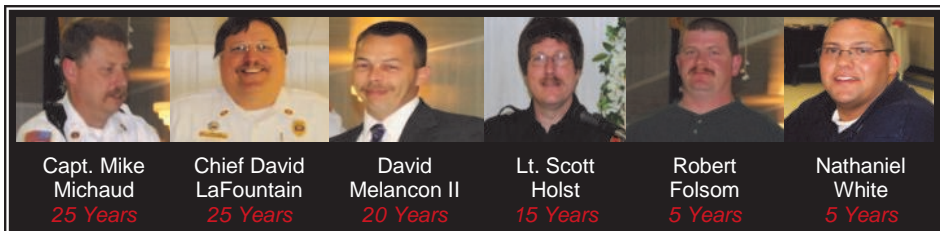
**Other Holidays:**  
(City Depts. Open)  
**Mother's Day**  
**May 9**  
**Father's Day**  
**June 20**

## 2010 Annual Awards Banquet

The 2010 Consolidated Firefighter's Annual Awards banquet was held on April 10 at the American Legion Hall in Waterville. The event began with greetings from Fire Chief David LaFountain and Consolidated Firefighters' President Lt. Scott Holst. Following a buffet dinner, prepared by several Consolidated members, Years of Service and Firefighter of the Year Awards were presented. Not pictured are Capt. Jeffrey Brazier (20 years) and Lt. John Gromek (20 years). This event was open to the public and attended by approximately 50 active firefighters and 10 retired firefighters.



Call Firefighter of the Year:  
**Pvt. Michelle Grass** (left) and  
Career Firefighter of the Year:  
**Pvt. Shawn Esler** (right)



Capt. Mike  
Michaud  
25 Years

Chief David  
LaFountain  
25 Years

David  
Melancon II  
20 Years

Lt. Scott  
Holst  
15 Years

Robert  
Folsom  
5 Years

Nathaniel  
White  
5 Years

## Manager's Minutes



With bad economic news swirling around us every day, it's easy to get caught up in the thinking that things will never turn around. One does not have to look very far however, to have hope that the City is moving forward in a positive direction.

*Over the past two years the City has seen some very important improvements, most notably:*

- the conversion of the former Hathaway shirt factory into a multi-use commercial center;
- the completion of two new buildings at Public Works – a sand/salt building and a new facility for fleet maintenance;
- the reconstruction of Chase Avenue/Lincoln Street to a very high quality road; and
- the City received a grant to help finance a major renovation project at the Muskie Center.

*Some projects which are currently on-going or soon to begin are:*

- the completion of a \$10,000,000 Educare facility adjacent to the George Mitchell School;
- a \$2,000,000 renovation/expansion at the Public Library;
- a \$500,000 grant for improvements in the Downtown and Head of Falls;
- renovation of the original Public Works garage building;

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## WPLibrary Stats

### *Waterville Public Library's 2009 Statistics as submitted to the Maine State Library.*

**Circulation of Library Material: 144,585**

(A 44% increase from 2003, the earliest circulation records the Maine State Library has on its website.)

**Interlibrary Loans Received: 25,726**

(for WtviPL Patrons and Provided to Other Libraries)

**Number of Computer Users: 24,139**

(A recent study from the University of Washington revealed that 1/3 of Americans use library computers. FMI: [http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2011432166\\_libraries25.html](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2011432166_libraries25.html) )

<b>Library Visits:</b> 148,700	<b>Children's Programs:</b> 148
<b>Reference Transactions: 18,574</b>	

Of course, these statistics only tell part of the activity happening at the Library. It is, however, good to see that the Waterville Public Library continues to be a well-used resource for our community. With the completion of the renovation, we can expect even more exciting and wonderful things happening at the Library. — *Sarah Sugden, Director*

## Yard Waste Drop Off

The Public Works Department is providing yard waste drop off for Waterville residents until June 18. Residents can bring their yard waste (leaves, brush, tree branches and grass clippings) to the Public Works Compound at 6 Wentworth Court for disposal. **Yard waste must be removed from plastic bags, cardboard boxes, etc. before disposal.**

**The following items WILL NOT be accepted:** brush/tree limbs larger than 6" in diameter, construction debris, tires, bulky waste items such as furniture and mattresses, appliances, scrap metals or hazardous wastes such as chemicals, paints and waste oils. **This drop off is for residential yard waste only. Please no contractors/no trees.**

**Hours: Monday through Friday from 7:00am-5:00 pm  
Saturday drop off available ONLY ON:**

**May 22nd & June 5th from 7:00 am - 12:00 pm.**

**FMI: Contact Public Works at 680-4744.**

## New Faces



*Debra Collins* began her duties as Finance Clerk for the Finance Department on March 24.



*Tanaya Day* started as a Dispatcher for the Police Department, Communications Center, on April 5.



## Parks & Recreation News

**From Parks** — Spring is undoubtedly the busiest time of year for our Parks crew. Lots to do with little time to do it! Early spring conditions have provided a great opportunity to get out and start cleaning up our parks, fields, playgrounds and trails.

Over the last few months, we've made improvements to the Brody Playground on North Street, Reed Softball field on Armory Road and Pine Ridge Recreation Area, off West River Road.

Last spring, we put in a Community Garden (12 raised beds) on North Street. The project was met with incredible enthusiasm and support. This winter, the garden committee began exploring areas in the South End. They identified a vacant lot at the end of Moor Street. We looked into things a bit and decided the property would be great for another community garden. The Moor Street Community Garden was installed on April 16. Twelve plots will be available to South End residents (see photo). Special thanks to both Waterville Main Street and South End Neighborhood Association (SENA) for helping clean-up our parks, playgrounds and downtown this spring!



South End Community Garden Plots

**From Recreation** — Springtime also means softball is back! We have three adult leagues that run from mid May through August. This year we have 12 men's league teams. In addition, we have two adult coed leagues. Bash league

is a "recreational" league, and has 14 teams registered. Smash league is a more competitive league, with 6 teams ready to play. Good luck to everyone, and let's hope for a sunny/dry summer!

We're also gearing up for our youth softball program. This year we have 3 teams, with a total of 41 youth participants. This will be our fourth season playing in the Fairfield PAL Association. We play against teams from Fairfield, Albion, Clinton, Benton and Winslow. Thanks to Cleveland Brown who organizes this

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## From the Police Files...

### Low Speed E.V.O.C. Training

The Maine Chiefs of Police Association District IV will be hosting Low Speed E.V.O.C. (Emergency Vehicle Operation Course) training at the Waterville Airport on May 10, 11, 17 and 18. This one-day training attracts full and part-time law enforcement personnel from all parts of Maine. Instructors are from the Waterville and Oakland Police Departments.



Monmouth Police



Capitol Police

The Low Speed EVOC and Precision Skills Pad Course is designed for law enforcement personnel emergency responders. Its purpose is to teach precise driving skills under low speed, low stress conditions, while simulating an emergency response. This Course focuses on precision handling & control as drivers expeditiously maneuver through and complete the course within a specified amount of time.

## Cutting Edge Training



As part of the many ongoing wellness and safety training initiatives being encouraged and promoted by the City, the Public Works Safety Committee sponsored a Chainsaw Safety Seminar on March 10 & 11 at the Robert LaFleur Municipal Airport. This free training event was offered through the Maine Department of Transportation and was provided to Public Works, Parks & Recreation and Airport Maintenance personnel. Yves Levesque, of St. Peter Safety Services provided a comprehensive, day-long program with topics including the following:

- Personal Protective Equipment
- Chainsaw Safety & Maintenance Procedures
- Chainsaw Operation
- Ergonomics – Body Positioning
- Precision Directional Felling
- Hazards
- Limbing and Bucking

As part of their job duties, workers may sometimes be required to operate chainsaws to remove fallen trees during emergencies; often in very unsafe conditions. Or, simply, they could be required to cut and remove overgrown brush and small trees in and around City properties. Since a lot of folks have also recently returned to the practice of cutting firewood as a source for heating their homes during the winter, we decided it would be beneficial to offer this training to everyone within the three departments. From the novice, to the self-described expert, everyone came away with something they did not previously know or understand. Many, if not all, felt that this training was of great value in providing information on personal safety when operating a chainsaw either at work or at home.

Many thanks to Yves Levesque for making this training both interesting and informative.

—Mark Turner, Director



Yves Levesque (left) with Chris DeMerchant, Public Works, Parks & Rec and Airport employees.

## Local Events



**Downtown Farmers' Market**  
Every Thursday thru Nov. 18  
2:00 – 6:00 PM  
[www.WatervilleFarmersMarket.org](http://www.WatervilleFarmersMarket.org)

**Seize the Mic Karaoke Contest Finals**  
Saturday, May 1 • 7:30 PM  
FMI : 680-2055  
[www.watervillmainstreet.org](http://www.watervillmainstreet.org)

**Bossov Ballet Theater: Alice in Wonderland**  
Friday - Sunday, May 7-9  
Fri. @ 7 PM, Sat. 2 PM & 7 PM  
Sun. @ 2 PM  
**Waterville Opera House**  
FMI / Tickets: 873-7000  
[www.operahouse.org](http://www.operahouse.org)



**45 Seconds from Broadway**  
Fri. May 7 - Sun. May 9 &  
Fri. May 14 - Sun. May 16  
Fri. & Sat. @ 7:30PM, Sun. @ 2 PM  
**Opera House, Studio Theatre**  
FMI / Tickets: 873-7000  
[www.operahouse.org](http://www.operahouse.org)

**Portland Sea Dogs Trip**  
Sunday, May 23 • 11 AM  
Bus departs: Waterville High School  
FMI: [www.waterville-me.gov/departments/parks](http://www.waterville-me.gov/departments/parks)

**Main Street Madness 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament**  
June 12  
FMI / Register: 680-2055  
[www.watervillmainstreet.org](http://www.watervillmainstreet.org)

**Trek Across Maine**  
Fri., June 18 - Sun., June 20  
FMI / Register: [www.lungme.org](http://www.lungme.org)



**I Ought to Be In Pictures**  
June 4, 5, 11 & 12 • 7:30 PM  
June 6 & 13 • 2 PM  
**Opera House, ACAT Theatre**  
FMI / Tickets: 873-7000  
[www.operahouse.org](http://www.operahouse.org)



## Finance Fine Points

### VEHICLE TITLE CHANGES

A Certificate of Title is a document showing proof of ownership, security lien, and vehicle identification info. A Maine Certificate of Title must be provided for all vehicles 15 years old and newer at the time of first registration or when a change in registration is required due to a transfer of ownership, unless exempt from Maine Title Laws. For all vehicles titled in Maine (after Jan. 1, 1991 and before Oct. 1, 1996) when a lien holder is listed on the title, a Certificate of Lien must accompany the title when

ownership is being transferred. After Oct. 1, 1996, titles having lien holders must be properly released on the front of the title by the lien holder. Effective June 10, 1999, the State of Maine changed from a 10-year title state to a 15-year title state.

### TITLE EXEMPTIONS

A Certificate of Title or Certificate of Salvage need not be obtained in certain circumstances. For more information on Title Exemptions go to: <http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/29-A/title29-Asec652.html>

## Manager's Minutes Con't.

- conversion of the old Gilman Street School into an affordable housing project;
- relocation of the City's snow dump from Head of Falls to City land near the railroad yard
- completion of a multi-purpose skiing, walking, biking trail off Quarry Road and along Messalonskee Stream;
- a \$175,000 EECBG grant for energy conservation projects in the Waterville-Winslow area;
- completion of a new Master Plan for Robert LaFleur Airport; and
- a \$2,000,000-3,000,000 improvement project at the Waterville Opera House.

We hope to complete all of these projects without any negative impact on the City's tax rate. Much of the credit for this goes to the Mayor and City Council for helping to build a healthy surplus balance and to department heads who have been diligent in advance planning and budgeting for these projects. It is really quite remarkable that we have been able to accomplish all these things without an increase in taxes.

I want to thank all of you for your cooperation. Together we can continue to move Waterville forward as a great place to live, work and play.

## Parks & Recreation News Con't.

league for all teams. Also, thanks to Bernie Clowes, Ron White and Dennis Martin, our volunteer coaches for the 3 divisions. Go Panthers, Pumas and Bobcats!

On April 11, we held our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Approximately 150 children ages 3 to 7 came out to meet the Easter Bunny and hunt for eggs. As always, it was a great success!

We're working hard in the office to prepare the summer programs and finalize the summer brochure. Parks and Recreation offers a wide array of programs for all ages. Programs include: arts & crafts, tennis lessons, golf lessons, track & field, and tiny tykes good time hour. This year we'll be collaborating with the Alford Youth Center on a Summer Enrichment Program for children ages 6 to 12. Look for our brochure in May.

As always, we're excited for the opening of the Municipal Pool Complex. The pool is scheduled to open on Saturday, June 19 and will close on Sunday, August 22. The hours of operation are Monday– Friday 1:00 to 7:30 pm, and Saturday & Sundays from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

We hope you're all able to get out and enjoy the spring and summer months. Please visit our [website](#) for more information about our facilities and programs. — *Matt Skehan, Director*

